

2009 Technology Impact Award Winners Announced

BC technology makes its mark on the world

Vancouver, BC, June 18, 2009 – Renowned for connecting people and systems to global mobile broadband networks, **Sierra Wireless** (<http://www.sierrawireless.com>) was named *Company of the Year* at the 2009 Technology Impact Awards (TIAs) hosted by the BC Technology Industry Association (BCTIA). The award formally recognized Sierra Wireless' phenomenal year that included developing the world's first data devices for the HSPA+ standard, further penetrating the M2M market with the acquisition of Wavecom S.A., increasing their BC-based employees to 250 and, for the first time in company history, surpassing half a billion dollars in annual revenues.

Earning the Leadership in Social Responsibility Award was **TELUS** (<http://www.telus.ca>) and its 'Give Where You Live' philosophy. Since 2000, TELUS, team members and retirees have contributed \$137 million and more than 2.6 million hours of community service. Having also contributed over 2000 computers and laptops during the 2008 calendar year, TELUS was further recognized with an appreciation award by Computer for Schools – an organization that provides increased access to computer technology for students and learners of all ages.

James Topham, retired partner of KPMG, was awarded the prestigious Bill Thompson Award for career achievement. James enriched BC's technology industry for over 30 years. During that time, he advised more than 100 technology companies and spent countless hours contributing to technology-related associations and philanthropic efforts. This includes being a founding member of the BCTIA. James is currently involved with three small technology firms as a financial advisor and director.

Over 700 representatives from BC's technology and business community came together at the new state-of-the-art Vancouver Convention Centre to recognize British Columbia's top technologies, companies and individuals. Other winners include:

Most Promising Pre-Commercial Technology

Heart Force Medical Inc. (*Vancouver*) has developed the Ballistocardiograph™ (dBG), a non-invasive medical device that assesses cardiac function by sensing forces generated from heart muscle contractions and relaying results via Bluetooth technology. <http://www.heartforcemedical.com>

Best Application of Technology

ACL Services Ltd. (*Vancouver*) delivers business assurance technology for audit and compliance professionals, allowing companies to concurrently interpret and analyze multiple heterogeneous systems all from a centralized control station. <http://www.acl.com>

Excellence in Product Innovation

Sophos (*Vancouver*) provides a web security and control appliance that features real-time monitoring and prevention of 100% of known and 90% of unknown malware, as well as patent-pending technology that automatically blocks 'rogue' surfers as they attempt to bypass web filtering.

<http://www.sophos.com>

Most Promising Start-up

Energy Aware Technology Inc. (*Vancouver*) helps improve demand-management energy conservation using an In Home Display (IHD) that communicates with the utility's smart meter to continually monitor and notify residents of their power usage and associated costs. <http://www.energy-aware.com>

Emerging Company of the Year

Elastic Path Software Inc. (*Vancouver*) uses a flexible e-commerce framework, based on open source technologies and full access to source code, to give enterprise clients complete control over their e-commerce projects. <http://www.elasticpath.com>

Team of the Year

Mixpo's (*Victoria*) team of five dedicated developers maintained and even advanced the business' alpha product while concurrently, and in nine short months, re-created the company for a burgeoning niche by delivering the robust and highly scalable Mixpo VideoAd Platform. <http://www.mixpo.com>

Person of the Year

Jonathan Rhone (*President and CEO, Nexterra Energy Corp.*) is one of BC's most prominent advocates of the clean tech sector, using his time and effort to ensure environmental sustainability remains a top priority in the province. Jonathan also secured a fourth round of financing and increased year-over-year revenues by 300% for his company Nexterra – developers of advanced gasification systems that convert waste fuels into clean energy.

“Tonight's winners and finalists reaffirm the breadth of BC's technology sector, delivering cross-cutting innovations that touch all sectors of the economy,” said Pascal Spothelfer, President and CEO of BCTIA. “We congratulate all winners and finalists for their ingenuity, adaptability and particularly their resiliency in a challenging economic climate – they are all making their mark on the world.”

This year, over 100 applications were received from technology companies of all sectors and sizes and from all corners of British Columbia.

For more information on the awards, the finalists and the winners, please visit:

<http://www.bctia.org/awards>

For further information or interviews please contact:

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Backgrounder

About the BCTIA

The BC Technology Industry Association is British Columbia's leading member-based industry association that represents start-ups to established technology companies across the province. As the voice of the technology industry, the BCTIA is committed to the ongoing growth, sustainability and prosperity of the technology industry and the transformation of British Columbia to a knowledge-based economy. For more information, please visit www.bctia.org.

About Heart Force Medical Inc.

Heart Force Medical Inc. develops non-invasive cardiac performance devices to measure and analyze the mechanical action of the heart. The Heart Force Digital Ballistocardiograph™ (DBG) device combines complex computer programs and sophisticated sensors to measure the mechanical function of the heart through the various cardiac cycles. Currently available tests for cardiac disease are lengthy and expensive requiring significant technical expertise and equipment not readily available at first points of care. This test is inexpensive, easy-to-use and a quick reporting device. For more information, please visit www.heartforcemedical.com.

About ACL Services Ltd.

Vancouver-based ACL Services Ltd. is the leading global provider of business assurance technology for audit and compliance professionals. Combining market-leading audit analytics software and professional services expertise, ACL solutions give organizations confidence in the effectiveness of internal controls and the integrity of the transactions underlying business operations. ACL delivers its solutions to more than 215,000 licensed users in over 150 countries through a global network of ACL offices and channel partners. For more information, please visit www.acl.com.

About Sophos

Sophos enables enterprises all over the world to secure and control their IT infrastructure. Sophos's network access control, endpoint, web and email solutions simplify security to provide integrated defences against malware, spyware, intrusions, unwanted applications, spam, policy abuse, data leakage and compliance drift. With over 20 years of experience, Sophos protects over 100 million users in nearly 150 countries with its reliably engineered security solutions and services. Recognized for its high level of customer satisfaction and powerful yet easy-to-use solutions, Sophos has received many industry awards, as well as positive reviews and certifications. Sophos is headquartered in Boston, US and Oxford, UK. For more information, please visit www.sophos.com.

About Energy Aware Technology Inc.

Energy Aware Technology is a Vancouver based company providing innovative demand management solutions for today's changing electrical grid. Energy Aware's home energy monitoring products will be included in the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Village. For more information, please visit www.energy-aware.com.

About Elastic Path Software Inc.

Elastic Path Software provides a flexible e-commerce platform that gives enterprises the capabilities and control to deliver innovation in a complex environment. The Java-based platform enables integration with SOA environments and rapid development of custom features. Enterprises can now quickly adapt e-commerce tactics to gain a competitive advantage. Companies such as Aeroplan, Time Inc, and Samsonite use Elastic Path for maximum control over their evolving online stores. For more information, please visit www.elasticpath.com.

About Mixpo

Mixpo is an online video advertising technology company founded in Victoria, British Columbia. The company provides a proprietary online video advertising technology platform to local media publishers that enables any advertiser – national, regional and local – to locally promote their business. Currently, Mixpo has offices in Victoria and Seattle, Washington. For more information, please visit www.mixpo.com.